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TO RUEHC/SECSATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3460 RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE INFO RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 0352 RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 1345 RUEHN/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0426

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 001616

DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ELA, AF/SPG, AF/E

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/16/2019

TAGS: $\underline{\mathtt{PREL}}$ SO $\underline{\mathtt{SU}}$ IZ $\underline{\mathtt{EG}}$ SUBJECT: ARAB LEAGUE ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA AND SUDAN

REF: A. STATE 79853
B.TRIPOLI 566 Classified By: Minister Counselor for Economic and Political Affairs Donald A. Blome for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).
1.(C) Key Points: -- The Arab League (AL) pledged USD 18 million to Somalia during its Doha Summit in January 2009, which supersedes any commit 2.(C) Comment: Our Darfuri contacts have always scoffed at the AL's role in Sudan insisting that it is biased toward Khartoum and never provide 3.(C) Zeid Al Sabban, African affairs advisor to AL SYG Moussa, told us on August 12 that the AL pledged USD 18 million to Somalia during its s 4.(C) Al Sabban said the AL is committed to Somalia, noting the League is the only organization with an Ambassador currently in Mogadishu. SYG 5.(C) Al Sabban said SYG Moussa discouraged Qatari Emir Hamad from supporting Al Shibaab through Eritrea, a charge the Emir emphatically denied 6.(C) Al Sabban said the AL was trying to change the perceptions of Darfuris toward the League by providing direct development assistance, and

7.(C) Al Sabban highlighted the need for a plan to coordinate an end to the conflict in Darfur. He noted the efforts of the USG had stabilized